Supportive Housing

The combination of permanently affordable housing and support services that help people live more stable and productive lives.

At Avalon, housing is a basic human right. Our mission is to build healthy, safe and inclusive supportive housing communities as a long-term solution to homelessness.

A nonprofit founded in 1992, Avalon provides supportive housing for people who are homeless and who have behavioral and physical health challenges, including mental illness and substance use disorders. Today, Avalon owns and operates 364 apartments at 28 sites throughout Washtenaw County. We provide support services to our tenants and to people living in public housing or in units owned by private landlords.

Who we serve

More than 800 clients in Washtenaw County

including 200 children

All of our clients earn at or below 30% of the Area Median Income (AMI)

55% deal with a substance use disorder and/or mental illness

Over 50% live on less than $800/month

How Avalon Supportive Housing works

Housing First

We first offer housing to those who need it. We then provide a broad array of support services to help people stay in their homes. We practice harm reduction to engage and support people on their path to recovery. As a nonprofit real estate developer, Avalon owns and/or manages supportive housing units in Ann Arbor, Chelsea and Dexter. Properties are financed with a mix of sources, including Low Income Housing Tax Credits, federal grants and rent subsidies, to reduce debt and guarantee permanent affordability.

Enhanced Property Management

At Avalon, our property management and services teams have the same goal—preventing eviction. They work together to creatively engage our tenants, support them and keep them in their homes. Our property management teams provide periodic unit inspections, payment plans, community meetings and close coordination with support services.
Community-building

Over 29 years of experience have taught us that building community is one of the most important parts of our work. We believe in the power of community to reduce isolation, foster hope and increase self-determination.
Avalon has a wide range of programs to engage residents and support at-risk youth.

Supportive Housing Services

All supportive housing residents are eligible to receive a wide variety of one-on-one supports and to participate in our community programs. Individualized supports help tenants address behaviors and challenges that may lead to eviction and a return to homelessness. **Essential supports include:**

- Case management: assessment, goal setting and action plans
- 24/7 on-call crisis response
- Assistance with basic needs and maintaining a safe and healthy household
- Advocacy and support with health care, substance abuse and mental health systems
- Primary medical care with our Packard Health partners
- Medication management and transportation to critical appointments
- Support and advocacy around parenting and child welfare issues
- Peer support programs

Impact

Supportive housing is nationally recognized as the most effective long-term solution to homelessness. The combination of affordable housing and support services prevents evictions, increases stability and provides opportunities for recovery. With greater stability, people have the chance to realize their full potential.

**Avalon’s supportive housing retention rate:** 96%

**National supportive housing retention:** 84%

“No one wants to be homeless. Supportive Housing works.” CSH